

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5435
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2007
NEW STANDARDS OF NUTRITION
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Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has organized a workshop to set up the new standards of nutrition;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the workshop has proven useful for controlling the problem of malnutrition in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY)

(a)&(b) The growth charts/standards are important tools for monitoring physiological growth/ nutritional status of children. Since late 1970s, National Centre for Health Statistics/World Health Organization (NCHS/WHO) growth references are being used in most countries in the world including India. WHO launched the New Child Growth Standards in 2006 and recommended its adoption by all member nations. The Ministry organized a National Workshop on Adoption of New WHO Child Growth Standards on February 8-9, 2007 in New Delhi in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, with an objective of eliciting views of experts, nutritionists, public health practitioners, etc. on adoption of the New Growth Standards. The Workshop unanimously recommended adoption of these New Growth Standards.

(c)&(d) The workshop was organized with a specific purpose of seeking a consensus on the adoption of the New WHO Child Growth Standards which has been achieved.